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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/764,585	01/27/2004	Haruhiko Maehara	1905-0115P	9203
2292	7590	12/14/2005	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747				DAVIS, DAVID DONALD
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2652				

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/764,585	MAEHARA, HARUHIKO
	Examiner	Art Unit
	David D. Davis	2652

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Priority*

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### *Specification*

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hunter et al (US 6,862,739). As per claim 1, Hunter et al shows in figure 1 a storage case 10 that is formed of a body 22 of the storage case 10 and a lid 12 so that the lid 12 is openable/closable with respect to the body 22 of the storage case 10. In the body 22 of which an information recording medium 30 is to be stored in a medium storage section, the storage case 10 includes a storage state determining section that allows the presence or absence of the information recording medium 30 to be identified based on the rising or setting of a projection piece 16,18,26 & 28.

As per claim 2, Hunter et al shows in figure 5, for example, the storage state determining section including a window section 12A" that is a hole provided in the outside of the body 22 of the storage case 10. A movable section is "turnably" supported in the body 22 of the storage case 10 and has a contact piece formed at its front end on the medium storage section side and a projection piece 16,18,26 & 28 formed at its front end on the window section 12A" side.

Inherent in Hunter et al is a urging section for resiliently urging the contact piece of the movable section to position on the medium storage section side. The information recording medium 30 is taken out of the medium storage section. The contact piece of the movable section resiliently urged by the urging section enters the medium storage section and simultaneously the projection piece 26 & 28 projects through the window section 12A". The information recording medium 30 is put into the medium storage section. The contact piece of the movable section is pushed out by the information recording medium 30 and simultaneously the projection piece 26 & 28 is pulled in through the window section 12A".

As per claim 3, Hunter et al shows in figure 6 a rotating shaft 62 pivoted to the movable section so that the length from the rotating shaft 62 to the contact piece is less than that from the rotating shaft to the projection piece 16,18,26 & 28. Also shown in figure 6 is that the moving amount of the projection piece 16,18,26 & 28 is arranged to increase in proportion to the moving amount of the contact piece.

As per claim 4, Hunter et al shows in figures 1 and 5 the window section 12A" provided in a side surface of the body 22 of the storage case 10, on the side of the opening portion between the body 22 of the storage case 10 and the lid 12. As per claim 5, Hunter et al shows in figures 1 and 5 the window section 12A" provided in the side surface of the body 22 of the

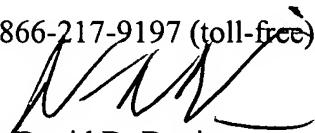
storage case 10, on the side of the turning portion between the body 22 of the storage case 10 and the lid 12.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David D. Davis whose telephone number is 571-272-7572. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday between 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, A. L. Wellington can be reached on 571-272-4483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



David D. Davis  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2652

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